Use of land near Hyderabad Airport by AAI

*616. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether space is available near Hyderabad Airport which is under the control of the Airports Authority of India;

(b) if so, the extent of land available;

(c) whether steps will be taken to use this land properly;

(d) whether it is a fact that pilgrims and others do not have lodging facility available near the Hyderabad Airport at reasonable rates; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the AAI to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No vacant land is available at Hyderabad airport which could be leased out for construction of lodging facility for pilgrims and others. The matter of getting the encroachments cleared has been taken up with the State Government at the highest levels. A five star hotel in the name of "Ramada Inn" under private sector has been constructed on AAI land. There are many other lodging facilities available at reasonable rates in the vicinity of Hyderabad airport.

Enhancement of Import Duty on Methanol

*617. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that six methanol producing indigenous petrochemicals industries are facing serious troubles because of invasion of their market by cheap imported methanol from outside the country;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to protect these industries; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the price of imported methanol through the enhancement of import duty on foreign methanol?